

APPENDIX A

Public Participation:

- ❖ *Fire Mitigation Planning Community Workshop Presentations on compact disc*
- ❖ *Minutes for Communities at Risk Workshop Series held in December 2003*
- ❖ *Minutes from Fire Mitigation Planning Workshop Series #2 held in March 2004*
- ❖ *Minutes from the Sawtooth City Fire Mitigation Planning Workshop held in April 2004*
- ❖ *Attendance Sheets for Community Fire Mitigation Planning Workshops*
- ❖ *A Blank Workshop Attendance Sheet for Future Workshops*

Communities at Risk Workshop Minutes

Held December 4, 2003 at Blaine County Senior

Questions:

- ◆ For Example: Is there a substance I can apply to the wood shingle roof of our historic family cabin to retard fire? – Kevin Lenane
- ◆ How can all the Fire Districts work together to manage catastrophic fire potential? – Chief Schwab
- ◆ As each new fire season comes around will we experience what happened in and to California? – Terry Thompson
- ◆ Will someone like Nate Norris be able to get the word out to the 60 homes around him and likewise would everyone else be willing to get the word out to their surrounding neighbors? – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ What are each community's high-risk areas? [The BLM asks us to identify.] – Curtis Jensen, BLM

Concerns:

- ◆ For Example: Griffin Ranch requires dense, vegetative screening around homes – lots of fuels up close to home structures is counter to our Communities At Risk goals. – Commissioner Mary Ann Mix.
- ◆ Annexations – Chief Chapman
- ◆ Congested River Fuels – Chief Chapman
- ◆ Short Staffed in Bellevue – Vivian Ivy
- ◆ The Smiley Creek area is an area in our county that also needs to be addressed through this Fire Mitigation Planning process. – Bill Dyer
- ◆ Lack of real concern and instead resistance to Mitigation – Bruce Smith
- ◆ Concern about distant, rural areas like Magic Reservoir – Nate Norris
- ◆ Also, unincorporated areas in general - ?
- ◆ How to get willing acceptance of our Plan through public involvement - ?
- ◆ So how can you [we] get the public aware and involved?

Ideas:

- ◆ For Example: Perhaps we should work with Homeowners Associations to be sure their Codes, Covenants and Restrictions (C.C.& R.s) do not conflict with Fire Mitigation Planning. - Commissioner Mary Ann Mix.
- ◆ For Example: Contact and make presentations to Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs to increase awareness and for the opportunity to distribute information to members who are often more than willing to further distribute the information to their constituents and their neighbors. – Commissioner Mary Ann Mix
- ◆ Get the point across that we cannot stop catastrophic fire! – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ◆ So lets identify risks regarding catastrophic fires. – Chief Bart Lassman
- ◆ Focus on fuels analysis to discover and confirm high-risk areas. – Denise Jackson
- ◆ Fire goes both ways – don't forget about fires that start in town and move onto high fuel public lands. – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ Pass on or transfer existing mitigation ideas to people you know. – Tom Johnson
- ◆ Bring our fire management capabilities up to the level of opportunity offered by the BLM and other support agencies. – James Frehling
- ◆ Identify areas in need of fuel reduction, which in turn could provide work for local tree service people. – Carl Hjelm

- ◆ Avoid conflicts other communities have experienced. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ◆ Find teachable moments when other communities are burning as reported through the media, especially through dramatic images seen on T.V. – Bruce Smith and Michelle Erdie
- ◆ Get a chipper – a tool that has been utilized by other fire departments to get rid of left over piles of neighborhood cut fuels up to 6 inches in diameter. – Chuck Turner
- ◆ Neighborhood clean-up days would go hand-in-hand with Chuck's idea. – Bruce Smith
- ◆ Building permit fee reductions could be introduced for people implementing fire prevention landscaping and fuels mitigation planning efforts. – Bill Dyer
- ◆ Talk to your surrounding neighbors about Fire Mitigation Planning and mitigation techniques. – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ Homeowners may be more receptive if leaders of homeowner organizations and associations are informed and directly involved. – Discussion amongst Chief Lassman, Chief Schwab, Fire Commissioner Frehling, et.al.
- ◆ Emphasize the “at no cost to me” or “free help” concept – that individuals need to at least turn up for neighborhood fire mitigation events, participate and support those local events to get mitigation assistance dollars from the BLM – but emphasize that these efforts to protect your own property don't have to hit anybody's pocket-book. – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ Give out Firewise building and landscaping information along with initial building permit information. – Bill Dyer
- ◆ Have a workshop with Bellevue Planning and Zoning and help Bellevue with door-to-door packets of information. - Marshal Randy Tremble and Vivian Ivy
- ◆ Clean out Bellevue allies, protect Bellevue water systems, work with home and property owners to offer help to clean out identified high risk areas, protect Bellevue from fires approaching from the West, and protect Bellevue from fires that might start in and move down out of the gulches to the East. – Vivian Ivy and Marshal Randy Tremble
- ◆ Get Vivian to work with Bruce and Cameron on mapping Bellevue's known high-risk areas. – Marshal Randy Tremble
- ◆ Start with Homeowners Associations' Presidents – once they've been informed, then they must take on some responsibility. – Pat Rainey
- ◆ Build on your focus group idea – create a code summit for code officials. – Chief Greg Schwab
- ◆ Get the people out to these workshops and more aware. – Group consensus
- ◆ Avail our efforts to small groups like architects first then builders. – Fire Commissioner James Frehling
- ◆ Homeowner Associations are another example of focus groups such as professional groups just mentioned. They are an avenue for wider distribution of information and for increasing awareness without having to go door-to-door particularly in certain subdivision or condominium areas where people are just not home much of the time. - Michelle Erdie, Fire Prevention Officer, USFS
- ◆ Contact people with awareness information before and when they build their homes. – Chief Bart Lassman
- ◆ Provide a building-department discount or fee reduction for meeting fire safety building standards and a discount or fee reduction for also building a safe environment around your home. – Bill Gehrke
- ◆ Produce a video with a “WOW!” factor to distribute for viewing – perhaps a fairly cheap mass production that could even be distributed door-to-door with examples that explain the fire fighter's ‘triage’ factor of having to choose between which homes we can and cannot save based on examples, perhaps from California catastrophes, that are shown in this 15 to 20 minute video or CD that makes its point but can still be viewed by the whole family without upsetting younger children – it's still rated PG. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins.

- ◆ Explain these issues to insurance companies to get their ideas and concerns and to increase their awareness. – Bill Gehrke
- ◆ For Example: Contact and make presentations to Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs to increase awareness and for the opportunity to distribute information to members who are often more than willing to further distribute the information to their constituents and their neighbors. – Commissioner Mary Ann Mix
- ◆ Evaluation of project sites most at risk to catastrophic fire – recommend the use of Red Zone site evaluation software to evaluate individual homes or properties for risk of fire on a scale of 1 to 10. – Discussion and explanation about software by and between Jeff Nevins, Tom Johnson, Bruce Smith, Michelle Erdie et.al.
- ◆ Provide people with do-it-yourself house assessment checklists and be willing to assist them with it if they seem to need further clarification. – Carl Hjelm
- ◆ Evaluate and inform about liability issues associated with NOT making your own property fire safe for others. – Fire Commissioner Frehling
- ◆ Also, monitor wells and water sources relative to areas at high risk for catastrophic fires. - Fire Commissioner Frehling
- ◆ Distribute Survey and Resource Analysis information on maps to each person in our Blaine County communities so that they can find their own property on the map and come to a visual realization of their own personal level of risk within the larger picture. In this way, even if their own home is a low risk site but their neighborhood is not, they will be more likely to get involved or to even spearhead neighborhood efforts if only for their own protection. – Chuck Turner
- ◆ The whole fire mitigation process needs to be community driven – talk to your own neighbors about what you learn and discuss in these workshops and encourage them to come with you next time. – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ Subdivision homeowner groups, builders, landscape industry folks, designers, planners are all focus groups that need to be contacted and presented to regarding these issues. Even if you have to entice them with cocktails and food and a “WOW!” video presentation, do it to get them to come out and participate and become aware and involve in these efforts. – Chief Greg Schwab

Your Vision of a Fire Mitigation Plan – My Ideal Plan would ...

- ... Provide Public Education. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ... Demonstrate outside advice and an objective critique. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ... Address safety zones and fuels management. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ... Be ‘Firewise’. – Assistant Chief Jeff Nevins
- ... Demonstrate a *proactive* versus reactive effort. – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ... Enhance each jurisdiction’s abilities to gain future grants and future opportunities. – Chief Lassman
- ... Provide a set of rules for building houses and the proper content for gaining assistance money to help communities reduce fire hazards. – Nate Norris
- ... Address existing development pressures to build out of to flats and into the hills and ... Provide quantifiable data for how fire safe development can occur on hillsides and in the urban interface. – Chief Mike Chapman
- ... Include stricter restrictions for slope developments compared to developments out on the flats. – Tom Johnson
- ... Cause property owners to take responsibility for controlling fire through the use of appropriate building materials for our area. – Tom Johnson
- ... Address the true *scale* of catastrophe relative to the *size* of our own community and ...
- ... Address coordination and cooperation between agencies *prior* to catastrophic fire. – James Frehling.
- ... Identify target hazards and discuss how to protect and prevent other areas from becoming hazards; also, discuss how to have more assistance ready and available. – Terry Thompson

- ... Discuss evacuation of livestock and people in the event of a catastrophic fire. – Patrick Rainey
- ... Discuss how all our response and EMS teams will interact together. – Bill Gehrke
- ... Function as a working document adjusted along the way as we experience more fires.
- ... Include visual examples of defensible space. – Tom Johnson (?)

Communities At Risk Workshop Minutes

Held December 11, 2003 at Carey School

Questions:

- ◆ What's going on with the Communities At Risk project? - Jack
- ◆ What is this Workshop all about? – Joe
- ◆ What about the loss of our biggest water source [Fish Creek Dam and Reservoir]? - ?
- ◆ What about canals that dry up with only a quarter of the water that will remain in the dam? This will add to increase risk from grass and weed fires coming out of canals due to dry fuels. - ?
- ◆ Will the resource interrelationships be considered?

Concerns:

- ◆ How WATER systems relate to fire concerns - Craig
- ◆ GANNETT! - Jim
- ◆ Fire that occurred recently in Carey – Joe
- ◆ Carey District Boundaries have changed – ?
- ◆ New water supplies in subdivisions - ?
- ◆ Education for agencies that assist and affect Carey for better understanding [of the agricultural related fire risk aspects of the Carey area]. - ?
- ◆ Concerned about ditches as corridors for fires to approach homes and properties - this is a seasonal hazard that we need to keep track of that relates to annual drought cycles that follow tall grass growth that occur in early spring season.
- ◆ Weeds yield fire – so we need to consider weed patches as hazardous.
- ◆ Canals as land features need to be burned for weed and grass control and this needs to be done safely as well – canals are a real high risk feature we need to address seriously.

Ideas:

- ◆ BLM's help with obtaining fire resistant seeds – seeding to prevent weeds.
- ◆ Burn and reseed in regular cycles to prevent cheat grass from taking hold
- ◆ Work into The Plan pressurized irrigation systems.
- ◆ Pressurized irrigation systems should have access for the BLM.
- ◆ The BLM should be able to hook onto two pressurized systems from Little Wood Reservoir.
- ◆ Get rid of or at least reduce the number of ditches and canals that – if they become permanently dry – could become conduits for moving wild fire hazards.
- ◆ Ways to get Communities At Risk information out to the Carey Community:
 - Rich will inform the Carey Planning and Zoning Commission
 - Sent letters to our Congressmen
 - Contact Paul Adams because he owns Picabo business sites
 - Jack will distribute fliers to his neighbors
 - Get articles in the newspaper
 - Send a flier home from school with the kids
 - Get the boy scouts involved
 - Use the radio to announce future Workshops on 92.5 KAT Country

- Also announce future Workshops on 102.9 and 99.9 The Buzz
- Give Jim fliers to distribute too!

Your Vision of a Fire Mitigation Plan – My Ideal Plan would ...

- ... Define the fire threat and risk.
- ... Identify resources and capabilities.
- ... Accomplish public education.
- ... Identify Fuels and Safe Zones.
- ... List Fire Station Locations, training needs and water needs.
- ... Assist us in lessening the severity of a catastrophic fire.
- ... Define how to protect structures.
- ... Demonstrate how to partner with the BLM.
- ... Educate people about self-protection.
- ... Address sagebrush fuels and how to reduce them.
- ... Speak to Gannett's rate of growth.
- ... Work toward and encourage personal understanding and public involvement about fuels and slopes and other hazards.
- ... Highlight potential catastrophes and their true impact to our community.
- ... Identify equipment needs.
- ... Identify water source locations and capacities relative to Carey's growth.
- ... Deal realistically with the full range of vegetative fuels because some of our threat is not just native vegetation but rather agricultural fuels.
- ... Address the threat of the location of fields relative to the south county towns and how to mitigate for this hazard, which must be considered a seasonal threat.
- ... Describe how the scale of the mitigation task needs to and will fit the scale of the risk.
- ... Identify appropriate types and quantities of equipment and water.
- ... Address the post-dam-breach situation - if Fish Creek Dam must ultimately become a dry site – relative to where the resulting fallow fields will become weed patches.
- ... Serve as a study that will demonstrate or prove that we need mitigation assistance and will do mitigation. Also...
- ... Be realistic about determining the amount of time it will take to complete the tasks identified in the plan as well as emphasize the need to stick with our Plan through the process to ultimately be eligible to receive mitigation money.
- ... Be written for our community to educate about fire prevention and mitigation.
- ... Discuss regular maintenance issues.
- ... Focus primarily on fuels reduction and secondarily on water issues / equipment needs.
- ... Address multi-agency involvement.
- ... Encourage partnering with BLM for learning better fire mitigation tactics.
- ... Identifies priorities and levels of risk.
- ... Recognizes weeds as a fuel source.
- ... Identify, establish and map fire buffers.
- ... Identify homes without buffers to sagebrush and restrict or prevent these situations at the County Level.
- ... Discuss how to improve water sources.
- ... Provide ideas for working with agricultural and livestock grazing industries toward ***reducing agricultural field fuels.***
- ... Build awareness and educate about fire risks, hazards and mitigation options.
- ... Talk about how to reduce canal fire hazards while still saving personal time by perhaps partnering with canal companies.

- ... Educate against arson and toward responsible fire *and safe* fire use.
- ... Use visual examples for educational purposes.
- ... Educate new comers to the area about types of fire risks relative to agricultural lands.

Communities at Risk Workshop Minutes

Held December 18, 2003 at Ketchum City Hall

Questions:

- ◆ May we get assistance with tree cutting within Sawtooth City? – Sandy Vail
- ◆ What was the general public response to what The City of Sun Valley tried for its mitigation efforts? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ What direction are we taking with specific mitigation tasks? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ How best do we explain this process to people? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ How does the distribution of funds work? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ How will we track and education new homeowners? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ How will we get the word out to folks about how they can go about getting mitigation help? – Gary Stivers
- ◆ How are we going to get the information out in a format people can use? – Tory Canfield and Randy Hall

Concerns:

- ◆ Being able to increase our readiness for a catastrophic fire. – Sandy Vail
- ◆ Have the best response system in place ahead of time. – Sandy Vail
- ◆ Taking seriously and learning lessons from California's experience. – Sandy Vail
- ◆ Immediately adjacent Public lands and SNRA Red Trees which ARE a true and ever increasing fire hazard – Sandy Vail
- ◆ Absentee Homeowners that are less aware of the fire hazard, unavailable to work with, or just not around to take care of their property. – Sandy Vail
- ◆ Need a plan and the backing or representation by a county agency for grant eligibility for Sawtooth City; we can't even apply for most grants without these two requirements in place. – Lois Cowan
- ◆ Vegetative fuels that increase fire hazard and the potential for catastrophic fires – Curtis Jensen, BLM
- ◆ Understanding each person's family experience, what they can personally handle or take on in terms of fire mitigation tasks and efforts. – Matt Furber
- ◆ Help with gaining public awareness and how to do that . – Robert Englehart or Paul Willingham?
- ◆ Gaining better awareness of the issues, understanding other people's concerns, learning ways to prepare and mitigate. – Stefanie Webster & Randy Hall
- ◆ Representation for the Building Contractors' Association. – Scott Miley
- ◆ Evaluating and defining the true cost of construction for new structural requirements that might be considered as a part of this process. – Scott Miley

Ideas:

- ◆ Trim up dead limbs on evergreen trees and clear the dead and dry brush away from your home. – Gary Stivers
- ◆ Use a brush hog to clear sage brush away just as Sun Valley did but evaluate first as this idea may or may not work for the Ketchum areas of concern. - ?
- ◆ Utilize a chipper for neighborhood clean-up events – the biggest problem as that people become overwhelmed with the pile of waste material they accumulate after they've completed their trimming and pruning. So provide the chipper scheduled for different neighborhoods for different weekends so that people have an easier way to get rid of the waste material. – Chuck Turner
- ◆ One chipper project in Oregon went a step further and led to the community bagging their own chipper wood scraps. They sold it in bags with their own community label and logo through hardware stores and landscaping companies and plant nursery centers as a recycled local product for mulching and composting. – Denise Jackson
- ◆ Perhaps there needs to be some changes in some structural building requirements too. - ?
- ◆ Go door-to-door with the information. - ?
- ◆ Provide individual suggestions for fire mitigation tasks to each homeowner based on their own, unique situation. - ?
- ◆ Have a list of suggestions that can be given to property owners to get them started with some ideas. They can choose from the list of fire mitigation tasks what they believe they are able or willing to take on for themselves without becoming overwhelmed. They can go back to the list when their time allows. - ?
- ◆ Perhaps we can pursue low interest or no interest loans for assistance with fire mitigation efforts particularly structural changes such as new roofs that are more costly property modifications. - ?
- ◆ So we also need to work with insurance companies to create local incentive programs. - ?

Your Vision of a Fire Mitigation Plan – My Ideal Plan would ...

- ... Address fuels by providing more information about how to manage fuels.
- ... Provide for fire fighter safety!
- ... Target fire hazards and risks
- ... Prioritize or triage highest risk areas
- ... Get building official and planners and stakeholders working WITH Fire Departments
- ... Overcome challenge of public education in an absentee homeowner community
- ... Address extremely large homes with no hydrant system!
- ... Take into account surrounding USFS forest issues.
- ... Speak to the effect over time of population and development GROWTH.
- ... Provide for interagency cooperation.
- ... Analyze the economic impacts to the community if a catastrophic fire occurs.
- ... Balance the fire challenges of fires that burn from in town out toward forest interface areas with fires that come from wild lands and burn into community areas.
- ... Identify high hazard zones and increases versus decreases in different modification costs
- ... Talk about how to prevent fire from coming onto your own property.
- ... Partner with the USFS regarding proactive solutions to fuel and bug issues.
- ... Be Voluntary!
- ... Educate people effectively about how to voluntarily participate in mitigation.
- ... Use property hazard ratings and their effect on homeowners insurance as a motivating factor for property owners to reduce fuels and do fire prevention.
- ... Speak to our tourist-based economy and the seasonal presence of unaware tourists.
- ... Describe what is at stake with catastrophic fire regarding each person's responsibility and liability for doing or not doing fire prevention on private property.
- ... Be a rational or motivating source for fire mitigation efforts.

- ... Incorporate positive landscaping techniques versus just clear zones or ‘hardscape’.
- ... Speak to true loss of ‘quality of life’ for ourselves and within our communities if we do experience a catastrophic fire that results in mass devastation.
- ... Address the alternative if we do not have a plan in place that we are following.
- ... Involve Sun Valley and their advice about their experience.
- ... Explain to new residents who the knowledge people are in their community that are available to help them, how to contact those people and how to go about doing appropriate mitigation for their own property.
- ... Raise awareness by using California examples for the shock value.
- ... Function as a living, working document that will change with community needs.
- ... Use technology for contacting people with fire hazard and mitigation information.
- ... Provide suggestions to homeowners for assessing and rating their own homes.
- ... Include public input.
- ... Utilize a GIS database to target high-risk areas.
- ... Provide a toolbox for the City and for Planning & Zoning to assist with appropriate advice and strategies whenever community members approach them in need of help with fire mitigation planning and implementation private property.
- ... Help planners to implement mitigation measures that have the potential to protect our entire way of life.
- ... Include grass roots level suggestions for mitigations tasks and ...
- ... Show people in a ‘how-to’ format what they can do at their own home to mitigate.
- ... Evaluate the Red Zone software to determine if it should be utilized for mitigation.
- ... Review successful and not so successful techniques for mitigation.
- ... Discuss contingency plans.
- ... Coordinate with the Forest Service on possible Red Zone site-by-site evaluation.
- ... List tasks for the individual to accomplish and ...
- ... Establish sites for community drop-off places for pruned and removed fuels.
- ... Reinforce not ‘when’ but rather that a catastrophic fire IS GOING to happen.
- ... Cost effective with programs to ‘phase-in’ ideas such as Class ‘A’ roofs.
- ... Demonstrate combustible fuels so that people understand what they are.
- ... Represent a pre-planning or proactive approach to hazardous fuels for fire prevention.
- ... Include creative ways to contact and educate absentee homeowners.

Continued ...

A General Outline of a Fire Mitigation Plan

- ❖ **Introduction / Local Background**
- ❖ **Goals & Objectives**
- ❖ **Planning Process Described**
- ❖ **Action Plan Described in Prioritized Tasks**
- ❖ **Technical Information to Support Action Plan**
- ❖ **References to Support Technical Information and Planning Approach**
- ❖ **Appendices:**
 - ◆ **Community Participation**
 - ◆ **Fire District Data on Historic Fire Occurrences Patterns**
 - ◆ **Vegetation Patterns Identified and Mapped**
 - ◆ **Infrastructure Demographics Identified and Mapped [such as road access]**
 - ◆ **Social Demographics Identified and Mapped [such as densely populated areas]**
 - ◆ **Fire Hazards and Fire Hazard Areas Identified and Mapped**
 - ◆ **Fire Fuels Modeling for Identified Fire Hazard Areas**

A General Outline for C.A.R. Workshop #2

- ❖ **Introductions for new participants**
- ❖ **Brief review of minutes from Workshop # 1 to highlight items we will work on**
 - **Which questions still need clarification from Workshop #1?**
 - **How can we turn our concerns list into a task list for our Plan?**
 - **What are our primary ideas we want to further develop?**
- ❖ **Presentation of a draft outline for our Fire District Plan.**
- ❖ **Divide up into discussion groups**
- ❖ **Opportunity to choose the ideas your most interested in and would like to further develop as part of the content of your Fire District Plan.**
- ❖ **Instructions on how to facilitate your small group planning effort.**
- ❖ **Small group discussion and planning session to develop your seed ideas.**
- ❖ **Regroup for small group presentations – be prepared with a spokes person to summarize your small group discussion and planning effort.**
- ❖ **Decide as a group which elements of our plan we will work on at the next workshop such as:**
 - **Turning more key ideas into planning tasks or ...**
 - **Developing outreach efforts you are all willing to implement in your own neighborhoods.**
- ❖ **Final Comments, Concerns, Ideas, Summary Statements?**

MINUTES FROM FIRE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP SERIES #2

(Word emphasis and punctuation in statements are noted by the facilitator, Denise Jackson, as interpreted by voice intonations and body language. None of these statements are represented as exact quotes.)

From Hailey Workshop #2 held March 4, 2004 at the Blaine County Senior Center:

Jeff Nevins: Communication topics to address through this planning process - Consolidated Dispatch with E-911 components and Countywide Fire Agencies' Communications plan.

Greg Schwab: Need to speak about homes and structures under hazard and risk analysis.

Bart Lassman: Education component needs emphasis and needs to be community driven.

James Frehling: A video has the most impact for me. Well produced video presentations work as a hook and will be the tool to bring people out to learn more about fire mitigation possibilities because videos can depict reality. Perhaps we should show video presentations on local T.V. to get people's attention. Gear the presentations to homeowners and citizens and show dramatic footage to get people to take the issue seriously. What about asking for a discussion of the fire prevention topic on Gene Delago's (sp?) local "Talk of the Valley" radio show?

Greg & Bart: We need more ideas under key educational themes that are presented at a personal level for people to relate the ideas to their personal property - their own homes.

Curtis Jensen - BLM: A project of getting assistance to mitigate fuels takes more time for scheduling through the BLM process than prevention measures like funding for renting a neighborhood chipper – which BLM can also help communities to do. Also, prevention techniques can begin right after the plan is signed.

Fire Officials & BLM Agree: YES, target prevention and mitigation such as fuels reduction techniques for various high risk areas and list our findings and desired prevention techniques in the mitigation plans!!

Bart Lassman: Need to approach individual rural groups as a team to gain their confidence in mitigation planning ideas. And we won't get rural community 'buy-in' until after we've done some sound resource analysis to target high risk areas.

Mike Chapman: We could use at least a rough draft of wildland interface zones and of historic fire burns that are displayed in map format. It could be very effective to publish these maps in the local newspapers. Maps would give people a picture of where fire has been and where it will likely go next. Then if people see their home located on the map in a high risk zone, it may prompt them to take the matter of wildland fires more seriously and get them involved in mitigation efforts.

Bruce Smith: We need to get the point across to homeowners that a house with a defensible space is the one the firefighters *don't* have to worry about.

Curtis Jensen: Told a horrific story about firefighters becoming so desperate to stop or at least divert a catastrophic fire that they found themselves in the position of having to use actual homes as a large enough fuel source to try to back burn toward and snuff out an on-coming catastrophic wildfire.

Sandy Vail: Homeowners need to understand that if 6 homes are on fire, only the ones that are defensible will be protected first or even at all! Unfortunately there are still a lot of people in denial about catastrophic wildland fire potential. A video like the one we're reviewing today could really be an eye opener to show how fire burns property and what makes the fire continue to burn.

James Frehling: Education on this topic calls for two levels of presentation – one is simple and dramatic; the other gets into technical information once attentions are caught.

Jeff Nevins: People who have not fought fire do not understand what firefighters go through. So people are not realistic about what firefighters can actually protect. The question is: could we make a local, two-pronged educational video like the one James eludes to with mitigation money? – my understanding from the BLM is YES we can plan to do that through mitigation money.

Mike Chapman: Another issue I think we need to address is water pressure – if there is no electrical because it is knocked out by fire or some other devastating even, then there are no pumps and without pumps we cannot access well water either. This is also a scenario Sandy has described before regarding the Smiley Creek area.

Greg Schwab & Jeff Nevins: When reduced to homeowner perspective, how things ignite and what things around your home will ignite are the key ideas – strike the “triaging homes” idea as it is a firefighter issue to handle and usually beyond the scope of concern for the homeowner whose primary concern is simple their own home.

Greg Schwab: “Creating a Defensible Space” by definition says firefighters are going into a Hazardous Zone – since it still has to be defended!

Curtis Jensen - BLM: Greg’s comment raises an excellent point – the new terminology at the federal level today moves away from the older concept of defensible spaces and replaces it with an aim toward survivable spaces or survivable zones.

Jeff Nevins: Regarding social issues – tie resource and social issues together by talking dollars and the potential in our valley for lots of cancellation of vacation reservations that can occur when an area receives negative media coverage and news press during and after a wildfire has impacted the area. Even if a wildfire is only *perceived* through the media to have done more damage than it actually did, negative press can cause a huge economic hit for communities like ours in terms of tourist dollars lost that we depend on.

Greg Schwab: Social issues should have priority over resource issues.

Mike Chapman: Again, to have a social impact, utilize and publicly display historic fire data so people can begin to learn where the fire may go next. Be sure that historic fire data is displayed as a map layer that stands clearly on its own – make it prominent and legible with just a few critical background map features to support the understanding of the data such as roads, topography and residential and obvious [landmark] locations.

James Frehling: Considering our location, topography, region and lack of any big fires recently – really the whole map should be a fire risk area which displays varying levels or degrees of risk relative to an overall risk level or factor.

Forest Service Folks: Kind of like the Smokey Bear signs showing levels of fire danger that always assume a potential for fire danger exists in the summer months but give the current condition a rating [of low, medium, high or extreme depending on various factors that can be analyzed such as humidity, winds, drought conditions, etc.]

Jeff Nevins: Regarding the Interagency Cooperation slide – add code issues to the list of cooperative items.

Curtis Jensen - BLM: A question for fire officials – will ISO ratings be affected if fire officials and local governments adopt stricter codes? He asks because the bigger national insurance agencies are jumping onto or taking note of the home survivability concept that has been introduced to replace the defensible space concept. [**Note:** The planning team needs to research and obtain an answer to this question from either insurance providers and/or fire officials because the facilitator, Denise Jackson, does not have an answer to Curtis Jensen’s questions noted on the Workshop flip chart sheets.]

From Carey Workshop #2 held March 11, 2004 at the Carey School Library:

John Adamson: Radio coverage is not as good as the initial radio map indicates.

Brad Mecham, John Adamson, Edith Fredrickson: A lot of mountains between Bell and Carey so if you cross behind a mountain or ridge – radio shadow – Areas of Concern: Fish Creek, Timmerman Hill, Picabo Hill, Moving North is good, Moving South is not so good, *Gannett Road is too close to the ridge of the hills so the signals are blocked.

Edith Fredrickson: What about suggestions for fire resistant paint or other fire resistant products and building materials? These ideas and suggestions will be useful.

Milton Fife: Regarding the old railroad Right-Of-Way that Blaine County Recreation District maintains – the County said no motorized use is allowed on that R-O-W. Milton did get an exception for utilizing a mower to keep the drying grasses cut down near and adjacent his property for his own property fire protection.

Brad Mecham: The problem of flammable dry grasses continues along the Right-Of-Way to the Gardener's property.

Milton Fife: Another consideration we should be working toward is the widespread use of *metal roofs*.

Edith Fredrickson: We need to take a look at placing a countywide ban on fireworks.

Tom Johnson: Let people know it's worth their effort to report any incident of someone shooting off fireworks because it *is* illegal and recognized as a **Big** hazard.

Bruce Smith: Prohibiting fireworks stands has already been suggested to us through this planning process.

Tom Johnson: No sale of fireworks in the county has been recommended but it has not been recommended for the cities yet.

Brad Mecham: If you ban fireworks in Blaine County, surrounding states still allow the sale of fireworks and of course transportation across state lines is not policed or regulated.

Tom Johnson: So perhaps we need to consider a good public education campaign to announce that fireworks are illegal and that the individual using them who accidentally starts a fire then becomes responsible for fire the damage and suppression costs resulting from that fire.

Milton Fife: Access is another critical issue. Over by Rogers' and Stevenson's place – the road used to go all the way through. The Nature Conservancy blocked it off but it used to be an access road maintained by the County.

Edith Fredrickson: Perhaps we should partner with the Highway Department on seasonal mowing schedules for tall grasses that grow in the barrow pits and then dry out later in summer. The biggest problem is the grasses that grow particularly around the power poles along the highway. This could become a ladder fuel right up the poles.

Group Summary of Fuel Concerns: Large weed patches, dry and overgrown vegetation in canals, seasonal agricultural fields of crops, fireworks in dry grasses and sage brush.

Edith Fredrickson: Dispersed Recreation use is also a real problem for us around Carey because we have no idea what the random recreational person passing through the area knows about fire hazards in our region much less around our immediate community. Besides fireworks, sparks from vehicles driving off-road can easily start grass and sage fires not to mention people building camp fires. These are real scary concerns that we have no regulatory control over right now.

John Adamson: Campers in Little Wood and Fish Creek areas could get caught up in these areas with only one way in and out.

Jim Churchman: High Five creek and bridge is a way out of the Little Wood that leads over Muldoon Road but many or rather most people don't know about that especially if they're just visiting the area for summer recreation activities and for camping.

Jack H. Taylor: There are a lot of dry fuels up in these canyons and dead end areas too from grasses that have grown high by the time it is late in the year.

Group: Some of these dispersed recreation areas of concern are managed through the Idaho State Department of Recreation.

Edith Fredrickson: The canyon toward Garfield Ranger Station under Forest Service management is another area of concern.

Milton Fife: More public education is needed with a particular emphasis on public awareness about *local* fire hazards for all types of campers.

From Ketchum Workshop #2 held March 18, 2004 at the Ketchum City Hall :

Chuck Turner: Be careful about the fire messages [from the educational DVD shown] that reach the public or the local homeowner. We don't want people to put their guard down in relationship to the reality of crown fires. Although remaining brands in the area continue to create ignitions after the moving fire has passed, crown fires are still initially a Big Concern!!

Matt Filbert - USFS: Basically we need to qualify the crown fire statements in this DVD.

Matt Filbert & Chuck Turner: Regarding codes, it should be noted that we haven't lost a home yet to wildland fire in this area except a house that was still under construction. ***However***, this would change ***very quickly***, if we lose the ***hillside ordinance***.

John Rathfon: Regarding a shock effect for the general public, we need to reach areas of housing like the Board Ranch through 30 minute to 1 hour long public television messages.

John Rathfon: Regarding fire code changes or updates, to be effective they need to be relayed to architects who can sell the new code ideas to their client homeowners.

Jon Skinner - BLM, Michelle Erdie & Matt Filbert - USFS: The ***Timing*** must be right for presenting dramatic DVD or video images. People have really related to Forest Service and BLM videos but particularly just after a catastrophic burn has been given wide exposure through the news media.

John Rathfon: The effect is similar to ***avalanche*** videos. People pay more attention to the information just after the first season snow falls or just after avalanche fatalities have been reported.

Michelle Erdie & Rochelle Ahrens: Fireworks educational kits with a focus on fire ecology provide a youth education format the Forest Service is currently using with K through 12 school children and with girl-scout troops. The goal is to teach children fire ecology so they will become informed citizens and property owners as they mature.

Bruce Smith: How do we get adults with busy schedules, who do not tend to provide captive audiences like school children to come to educational fire mitigation workshops?

Mickey: Regarding education, get on the agenda of various groups like the American Institute of Architects and the Building Contractors Association, etc. Rather than holding a special meeting for these groups, start by just getting on their existing agenda for a monthly meeting and even on Planning and Zoning agendas. The simple message should be about how to build a fire resistant home if you so desire. Another message might focus on fire proof or fire resistant building materials.

Mickey: Also, there should be better training for the local fire departments in cities and towns. Cross training is needed between structural firefighters in the cities and federal firefighters for public lands so that structural firefighters are able to perform initial response until the federal assistance arrives.

Others summarized: Better cross training and 'interface' assistance.

John Rathfon: Urban Interface Zone exercises performed by firefighters going through subdivisions and placing red rocks versus green rocks at the entry to residential driveways has opened a lot of eyes! Homeowners came out and asked what the red and green rocks meant. When they found out that a red rock placed at their driveway entrance meant that their house would be skipped by firefighters in a catastrophic fire situation over protection for a neighbor's home that had received a green rock during fire fighter inventory, the homeowner's personal surprise spurred on a series of questions as to how firefighters made the red versus green rock determinations.

Jon Skinner - BLM: A classic teachable moment!

Mickey: Another very effective way to begin educating about this issue is to work with ***Target Groups*** like planning and zoning commissions, architects and builders and to use ***simple messages***. ***Focus on materials*** such as roof and siding messages.

Mickey: Hates to see fire used as another "Not In My Back Yard" excuse to "prevent sprawl".

Bruce Smith: Getting back to simple messages – explains how we would relate a fire hazard message to Avalanche A & B Zones as an analogous format for mapping areas at varying levels of hazard to wildfire.

Bruce Smith: Also agrees we need to bring fire mitigation message to places where organizations are already having group meetings.

Mickey: Again building material related codes are most understandable.

Curtis Jensen – BLM: Wanted to remind the workshop group that this process will result in a plan, it will not result in new codes. Researching, preparing and passing new codes are a mitigation efforts or plan implementation actions.

Curtis Jensen – BLM: Also, focus on the fire potential message such as the one presented in the DVD presentation – that the intensity of heat and the length of time the intensity is sustained in proximity to certain types of high hazard fuels will determine the potential for your property to ignite.

Tom Johnson: The good news is that there already exists a Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Code that can be considered for adoption by any or all of our local fire agencies and local governing authorities after this planning process and through the mitigation process. All we need to do right now is take a look at whether or not existing available fire code structures are for us and make recommendations accordingly through our fire mitigation planning process.

*** WORKSHOP MINUTES ***

SAWTOOTH CITY FIRE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

- Hosted from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM on APRIL 30, 2004 -

Task Ideas for the Sawtooth City Action Plan for Fire Mitigation Efforts:

- ❖ View the useful and interesting web site discovered by Sandy Vail with the web address of www.pyrologistix.com
- ❖ Continue fuel reduction efforts via removal of bug-infested trees in and around Sawtooth City.
- ❖ Create a fire break of some sort through wide removal of fuels to create a corridor.
- ❖ Note that 45 acres of mowing within the sage brush between Beaver Creek Store and Smiley Creek Lodge was completed in a mosaic pattern as part of the effort to create a fuel break.
- ❖ Let's look at doing more sage vegetation removal through additional mowing.
- ❖ Identify or recognize sage brush as a Hazard Fuel.
- ❖ Use data collection to visually display a possible location for a complete fire break.
- ❖ Provide a CD of final GIS Maps of land (topography), vegetation and fuel data.
- ❖ Create or contribute to an existing "Communities at Risk" web site.
- ❖ Determine with the Forest Service how effective controlled burns could become in the winter months.
- ❖ Continue to work with the Forest Service to expand winter burn possibilities and to continue to remove bug-infested trees as fuel too.

- ❖ Identify in partnership with the Forest Service where the most ideal and safe locations are to pile slash once fuels are removed.
- ❖ Provide a big chipper with a big truck to chip all fuels and haul off bug-infested mulch and debris completely out of the area.
- ❖ Avoid the expense and labor intensity and hauling cost of removing whole trees or even all the wood chips by using some wood chips in the area.
- ❖ Utilize chip spreading in the area but do not use too many chips. Wood chips around the home are also a fuel source and fire hazard. Instead ...
- ❖ Utilize wood chips primarily on roads for additional surfacing and delineation.
- ❖ Remove the remainder of chipped material or heavily-bug-infested material to the Stanley landfill perhaps for further mulching to a finer chip size for composting.
- ❖ Request that the Forest Service look into the situation on larger properties such as the Duff and Justice properties.
- ❖ Ask if a chipper and/or burn crews can be brought directly to these larger properties for fuels reduction projects for infested trees.
- ❖ Prohibit all fireworks in the area in the summer and high fire risk months.
- ❖ Create further restrictions on campfires and bonfires including a site inspection process.
- ❖ Write these fireworks, campfire and bonfire restrictions for enforcement at least within the Sawtooth City limits to serve as additional restrictions beyond existing Forest Service restrictions.
- ❖ Clarify and enhance fire restrictions with the intent of reinforcing the serious need to prohibit fireworks and control recreational fire sources in and around Sawtooth City.
- ❖ Clarify the fire permit and controlled fire burning rules for and within Sawtooth City.
- ❖ Ask Marshal Bill Dyer about burn permits and just exactly how they work within Blaine County.
- ❖ Confirm that a controlled burned fire permit is required after May 15th regardless of weather conditions – yes?
- ❖ Target wood cutters with an educational leaflet for better slash piling and designated locations for slash piles.
- ❖ Note that the Sawtooth National Forest is the only forest in our region that requires brush piling so we are fortunate to have this requirement to work with.
- ❖ Note also that Michelle Erdie and Jim Rineholt of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area have a supplemental brochure now to add to wood cutting permits that was developed over the past winter 2003 to 2004.

- ❖ Note that the brochure was specifically developed in response to concerns such as the one raised here tonight that wood cutters need to be better educated on how to clean up their work areas in the most fire-preventative format.
- ❖ Note that another service provided along with educational brochure is brush piling. Forest Service is now hiring folks to pile brush into appropriately located burn spots.
- ❖ Obtain money for a year to year spraying program for consistent bug control.
- ❖ Develop a communication process that is effective between homeowners and fire officials and the Forest Service.
- ❖ Take responsibility for your own personal safety!
- ❖ Work together to ensure that each homeowner has developed a personal home evacuation plan and has neighborhood and area numbers to call for assistance.
- ❖ Work together to create an easy-to-use set of instructions for guests who need to be educated about fire risks during extreme fire hazard season.
- ❖ Include special information for guests who may also need instructions on what to do in the event a forest fire threatens Sawtooth City while they are visiting.
- ❖ Work together to develop a special safety, fire protection and evacuation kit for residential home use with appropriate equipment for these fire mitigation situations.
- ❖ Evaluate and develop a list of equipment and supplies that Sawtooth City residents and homeowners would like to gather and acquire for communitywide fire prevention purposes and fire mitigation projects.
- ❖ Create your own survivable space around your own home and property.
- ❖ Increase community-wide knowledge of our surrounding radio communications system and how to use it.
- ❖ Establish a requirement that even lots with no structures still need to clear and remove at least dead, bug-infested and ladder fuels because of their effect on surrounding lots with existing homes.
- ❖ Focus on slash removal to solve this leftover fuel loading problem right away!
- ❖ View the interesting web site regarding ***fire break systems*** that has been researched and obtained, as promised, by fire planning team member Cameron Packer. The web address is <http://www.firebreaksystems.com>

Participants of the Fire Mitigation Planning Workshops held in Hailey, Idaho - December 2003 & February 2004	Participants of the Fire Mitigation Planning Workshops held in Carey, Idaho - December 2003 & February 2004	Participants of the Fire Mitigation Planning Workshops held in Ketchum, Idaho - December 2003 & February 2004	Participants of the Fire Mitigation Planning Workshops held at the Smiley Creek Lodge, Sawtooth City, Idaho - April 30, 2004	Volunteer Firefighter List and Property Owner Contacts for West Magic Fire Protection District as of September 2004
Terry Thompson	Hollis Pincock	Robert Englehart	Gary Glover for Hazel & George Cox Cabin	FULL TIME Residents
Bill Gehrke	Brad Mecham	Paul Willingham	Rick Roberts	Clint Kisler-Fire Chief
James Frehling	Josh Brinkley	Matt Furber	Jerry Doughty	Darlene Kisler
Greg Schwab	Tony Davis	Sandy Vail	Steve Blau Kanship	Kathy & Tom Wortman
Chuck Turner	Miles Canfield	Lois & Mike Cowan	Ralph V. Fink	Don & Billie Grubb
Michelle Erdie	Richard Kimball	Tory Canfield	Eleanor Washburn	Stacy McLaughlin - Secretary & Treasurer
Bruce Smith	Jeff Nevins	Michelle Erdie	Bob & Marie Curl	Don Hartman
Cameron Packer	Seth Greenfield	Chuck Turner	Mike & Ruby Stastay	John Wisby
Vivian Ivie	Jim Churchman	Jeff Nevins	Jack Sears	Matt Warner
Mike Chapman	Craig Patterson	Greg Schwab	Gus & Marlies Stroes	Rich Stoney
Carl Hjelm	Joe Dilworth	Scott Miley	Roger Doern	Michelle Banducci
Patrick Rainey	John Adamson	Randy Hall	Randy Townsend	John Adkins & Maria Donnelly
Bill Dyer	Jack H. Taylor	Robert Hart	Greg Schwab	Full Time DAYTIME Residents
Jeff Nevins	Rick Mecham	Stefanie Webster	Matt Filbert	Debbie Palmer
Bart Lassman			George & Ruth Ann Miller	Richard & Deloris Gillespie
Curtis Jensen			David Keiski	Chuck Harmon
Nate Norris			Wes Wills	Debbie Hemly
Jean Seymour of BCA			Verlon Herndon	Don Farnes
			Francis Shetterly	Cloyce Edwards
			Sheri Wills	Joanne Maxfield
			Michelle Erdie	
			Clark Berg	
			Steve Pruitt (absent but sent questions)	

	NAME	HOME Phone	WORK Phone	Cell/Mobile	POSTAL ADDRESS	e-MAIL ADDRESS
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